

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. In a steering apparatus for a vehicle,  
comprising:

an upper bracket fixed to a rear side portion of  
5 a vehicle body and including a pair of opposed flat  
plate portions formed with first holes opposed each  
other and separated from each other;

a lower bracket fixed to a front side portion of  
the vehicle body and including a pair of opposed flat  
10 plate portions formed with second holes opposed each  
other and separated from each other;

a steering column rotatably supporting a steering  
shaft;

a first support member held between said opposed  
15 flat plate portions of said upper bracket, formed  
with a first support hole opposing the first hole and  
supporting said steering column;

a second support member held between said opposed  
flat plate portions of said lower bracket, formed  
20 with a second support hole opposing the second hole  
and supporting said steering column;

a first support mechanism for supporting said  
steering column on said upper bracket via the first  
hole of said upper bracket and via the first support  
25 hole of said first support member; and

a second support mechanism for supporting said  
steering column on said lower bracket via the second

hole of said lower bracket and via the second support  
hole of said second support member,

an improvement characterized in that said  
steering column is integrally formed with said first  
5 support member and said second support member,

said first support member is integrally formed  
with a first swelling portion having a pair of side  
portions that respectively press-abut on said pair of  
opposed flat plate portions of said upper bracket,  
10 and

said second support member is integrally formed  
with a second swelling portion having a pair of side  
portions that respectively press-abut on said pair of  
opposed flat plate portions of said lower bracket.

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2. In a steering apparatus for a vehicle,  
comprising:

an upper bracket fixed to a rear side portion of  
a vehicle body and including a pair of opposed flat  
20 plate portions formed with first holes opposing each  
other and separated from each other;

a lower bracket fixed to a front side portion of  
the vehicle body and including a pair of opposed flat  
plate portions formed with second holes opposing each  
25 other and separated from each other;

a steering column rotatably supporting a steering  
shaft;

a first support member held between said opposed flat plate portions of said upper bracket, formed with a first support hole opposing to the first hole and supporting said steering column;

5 a second support member held between said opposed flat plate portions of said lower bracket, formed with a second support hole opposing the second hole and supporting said steering column;

a third support member for supporting a harness  
10 member between said first support member and said second support member;

a first support mechanism for supporting said steering column on said upper bracket via the first hole of said upper bracket and via the first support  
15 hole of said lower bracket; and

a second support mechanism for supporting said steering column on said lower bracket via the second hole of said lower bracket and via the second support hole of said second support member,

20 an improvement characterized in that said steering column is integrally formed with at least two said support members among said first support member, said second support member and said third support member,

25 said first support member is integrally formed with a first swelling portion having a pair of side portions that respectively press-abut on said pair of

opposed flat plate portions of said upper bracket,

said second support member is integrally formed  
with a swelling portion having a pair of side  
portions supported respectively via a hinge device on  
5 said pair of opposed flat plate portions of said  
lower bracket, and

said third support member is integrally formed  
with a third swelling portion having a third support  
hole for fixing a support member that supports said  
10 harness member.

3. A steering apparatus for a vehicle according  
to claim 2, wherein said third support member is  
formed on said first swelling portion, formed  
15 extending toward a front side of a vehicle body, of  
said first support member.

4. A steering apparatus for a vehicle according  
to claim 1 or 2, wherein a protruded portion  
20 protruding inward along the whole of the first  
support hole is formed along a peripheral edge of  
said first support hole.

5. A steering apparatus for a vehicle according  
25 to claim 3, wherein the first hole of said upper  
bracket is an elongate hole for adjusting a tilt  
position,

said second support mechanism is a hinge mechanism for rotatably supporting said steering column, and

5       said first support mechanism holds and fixes said first support member between said pair of opposed flat plate portions of said upper bracket, or releases said first support member to enable said steering column to move.

10       6. A steering apparatus for a vehicle according to claim 5, wherein both of the first support hole of said first support member and the second support hole of said second support member are elongate holes for adjusting a telescopic position of said steering  
15       column.

7. In a steering apparatus for a vehicle, comprising:

20       a steering column for rotatably supporting a steering shaft; and

      a vehicle-body-rear-sided bracket and a vehicle-body-front-sided bracket, fixed to a vehicle-body-sided strengthening member, for supporting said steering column,

25       an improvement characterized in that said steering column is integrally formed with a plurality of swelling portions and is supported on said

vehicle-body-rear-sided bracket and/or said vehicle-body-front-sided bracket via said swelling portions.

5        8. A steering apparatus for a vehicle according to claim 7, wherein a harness member supporting member is attached via one of said swelling portions.